

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **JAEGER APPROVES DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE PETITION FOR CIRCULATION**

**Bismarck, ND** – Secretary of State Al Jaeger has approved for circulation a petition for gathering 25,688 signatures to place a constitutional measure on the ballot relating to the definition of marriage.

The ballot title for the petition is as follows:

This initiated measure would add a new section to Article XI of the Constitution of North Dakota defining marriage as a legal union between a man and a woman and providing that no other domestic union may be given the same legal effect.

If the sponsoring committee intends to place the measure on the November general election ballot, they must submit the petitions with a sufficient number of signatures to the Secretary of State before August 4, 2004.

According to Jaeger, if the sponsoring committee does not meet the August deadline, they still have one year, or until June 6, 2005, to circulate the petitions and submit them to his office. If approved for the ballot, the measure would be voted on in the next statewide election that occurs.

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